

Pending Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. ^{Currently} ~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim 1, A fastening and retention system for a strap, said system comprising:
 - a) a strap having at a first strap end, a securing mechanism configured to receive a second strap end, and
 - b) one or more retention loops for maintaining, when said second strap end has been secured by said securing mechanism, said second strap end in close contact with a portion of the strap that is proximal to the first strap end, wherein said retention loop(s) can slide along said strap when the strap is not secured by said securing mechanism,
wherein one or more of said retention loops comprises a first component of a mating structure, and said strap comprises a complementary component of the mating structure,
wherein said complementary component of said mating structure comprises a protruding member and said first component of said mating structure comprises an aperture for receiving said protruding member, wherein said protruding member is located on said strap, and said aperture for receiving said protruding member is located on said retention loop, and
wherein said mating structure prevents said loop(s) from sliding freely along said strap when the two components are mated.
5. ^{Currently} ~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim 4, wherein said strap is configured to receive thereon a device.

6. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 5, wherein said device comprises at least one of the following: a wristwatch, an altimeter, a depth meter, a pedometer, a pager, a telephone, a personal data device and a tide meter.

7. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim 6, wherein said device is comprises a wristwatch.

8. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim 6, wherein said device is comprises an altimeter.

9. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim 6, wherein said device is comprises a depth meter.

10. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim 6, wherein said device is comprises a pedometer.

11. (Canceled)

12. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein said strap is a two piece strap comprising:

- a) a first piece having a first device end and said first strap end, and
- b) a second piece having a second device end and said second strap end, wherein said first and second device ends comprise an attachment structure for securing said first and second pieces to a device.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A system according to claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein said ~~flexible~~ strap comprises ~~at least~~ one of the following materials: leather, rubber and a polymer.

17. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 16, wherein said polymer is selected from the following list:

polyurethane, polyurethane/silicon blend, nylon, and polyvinyl chloride.

18. ^{Currently}
~~(Presently Amended)~~ A fastening and retention system, comprising:
a wrist-born device,

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a strap having a first end and a second end, the first end including a securing mechanism configured to receive a second end, and the strap being physically connected to the wrist-born device, and

a retention loop for maintaining at least a portion of the second end in contact with at least a portion of the first end,

wherein the retention loop comprises a first component of a mating structure, and the strap comprises a complementary component of the mating structure, the complementary component of the mating structure comprising a protruding member and the first component of the mating structure comprising an aperture for receiving the protruding member, and

wherein the retention loop can freely slide along the strap when the strap is not secured by the securing mechanism,

wherein the mating structure prevents the retention loop from sliding freely along the strap when the two components are mated.

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19. ^{Currently} (Presently Amended) A system comprising:

a retention loop defining an opening,

a first strap passing through the opening, and

a second strap passing through the opening,

wherein the retention ~~loops~~ loop comprises a first component of a mating structure, and the second strap comprises a complementary component of the mating structure, the complementary component of the mating structure comprising a protruding member and the first component of the mating structure comprising an aperture for receiving the protruding member, and

wherein the mating structure prevents the loop from sliding freely along the straps when the two components are mated.